

The college still considering the question of student life

By Keith Huffman

Is there student life at Shelton State? Think about it.

For instance, inside Cybucs, the student coffee shop on the second floor beside the Student Organizations center, students are usually seated in front of the shop's six computers, often chatting with others online, checking their e-mails, watching videos on YouTube or downloading music. Some, too, are studying while seated comfortably on cushioned armchairs, glossing over their textbooks and notes and sipping a relaxing cup of joe.

Is this student life at Shelton? Given the ordinary, day-to-day setting, apparently so. On the other hand, there are some students who think there should be more.

Consider Shelton sophomore Marcus Hamner, a computer engineering major, who considers him-

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How much of a student life do *you* want?



Students playing on the Shelton State 'quad' during the recent Relay for Life rally got the Courier thinking about the whole question of student life at the college.

Play sparks 'Southern' analysis



Dianne Teague played Aunt Elner in the Fannie Flagg piece.

Story and Photos
By Matt Celozzi,
Courier Editor

I'm not so sure I understand the South. And it's not for a lack of trying.

First off, let's get this out of the way: I'm from the North; Chicago to be exact. It's above the Mason-Dixon Line, which I hear is all that matters. And, though I won't get into the details of how I ended up in Alabama, I will tell you that I'm no stranger to this state. My mother was born here, as were her parents, and, because of this, I managed to spend summers and holidays right here in the heart of the South.

It's likely due to this, or maybe in spite of it, that I've always possessed a confused understanding of the region.

Don't get me wrong, I love the South. The friendly people with their gen-

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Relay for Life—it's more than a fundraising program

By Meredith Sayers

Celebrate. Remember. Fight back.

That's the motto of Relay for Life--a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. Relay for Life raises funds to fight cancer and promotes awareness of cancer prevention and treatment by hosting relays where members of a team raise money and take turns walking or running around a track.

However, Relay for Life is more than just a fundraiser. It is an inspirational movement that rejuvenates hope in cancer victims and survivors, but also honors those taken by the disease. Martha Key, a member of Shelton State's Relay team, said it is healing for some people—it gives them a chance at fellowship with others who are going through the same thing.

The movement behind Relay for Life seems to be driven by people dedicated to enhancing the life of cancer victims and finding a cure. Key describes the atmosphere at the relay as "carnival-like" and this

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Play
the QEP,
Game again for
Prizes &
Fun!

Life from Page 1

self an athletic guy. Though his weekly routine requires he study for exams, Hamner usually finds time on week-ends to hit the gym to work-out and play basketball.

Nonetheless, when asked if he thought Shelton would benefit from a student life program in which students could indulge in extra curricular activities held indoors and outside, after as well as between classes, Hamner, along with other Shelton students, agreed.

"Shelton could have more activities for students to participate in, like the setup they had outside in the Relay for Life recently," Hamner said, warming to the idea of extra outdoor activities. "Maybe not once a week, but once a month at least."

SSCC automotive major Richie Hardy also displayed interest at the mention of student life activities, saying, "I'd suggest Shelton have a pool hall and a place... like a gym where students can work out after class, kind of like a rec center. That way students can stay in shape."

Head Women's Basketball Coach Modonna Thompson also showed keen interest in the idea of student life activities, saying the best way for students to socialize is through sports, adding it would be "great to get people more involved [in student life,] particularly if such activities were held during the daytime while

most students are still at school. Thompson recommended activities like ping-pong, volleyball, and soft-

ball tournaments, as well as small-sided soccer and flag football.

Stating her opinion that

a school has to offer more in order to receive more, especially if that school wants to stay competitive with other junior colleges,

Thompson also commented on what appears to be the current student life at Shelton. "I feel like, when I look around here... The kids here, their social life involves the Internet," Thompson said. "You look around the school and see a building full of computers, and some are doing their homework while most are socializing online. I've heard a lot of people have talked about doing such programs [like student life activities], but no one has ever been appointed to start those types of programs."

According to Assistant Dean of Student Services Susan Mohun, the Shelton student department once hosted similar activities as those held during the recent relay for life fundraiser seven or eight years ago. However, Mohun added the programs were "not well-received" in terms of participation.

Speculating, nevertheless, Mohun said if such programs were to

be renewed, it would be best to hold them during lengthy periods between class exchanges, whereas if they were held at a time when most students were finished taking classes, students would be more apt to head home.

If students were to show interest, Mohun said she would gladly consider the matter. Seeming to echo the responses from students who also considered the idea, Mohun, too, believed student life activities would benefit Shelton, and even made a few suggestions for activities, specifically ping-pong and the video game "Guitar Hero."

While speaking of her PED class' participation in the April 3 Relay for Life activities, Shelton Wellness Instructor Lea Green also expressed approval for the idea of Shelton sponsoring more student life curriculum. "I think it would be nice to have intramural activities to help keep students on campus, to help them meet new friends and socialize," Green said. "I took my exercise class to the Relay for Life activities and they really enjoyed it. I think any kind of monthly school activities would be well-received by students."

Also agreeing more student life activities would be a wise move for Shelton to encourage student participation, Shelton women's basketball player Margaret Bell said, "It would be a good way for people to get to know each other and just give them something to do."



Are the Shelton students willing to fight for more student life, or will they just be content to sit around?



The Shelton State Courier is brought to its readers by the academic and extracurricular programs of Shelton State Community College.

Shelton State Courier

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The Shelton State Courier is a campus newspaper, written and produced with the help of students.

Among its functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression, and all students are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic freedom in working with the students in the pro-

duction of this paper.

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

The Courier is an equal opportunity employer and student organization. All students are encouraged to participate.

Shelton loses a family member



By Stephanie James

Shelton State lost one of its math instructors, Carrie Rogers, at age 54 on Wednesday, March 26, after a long-term illness, at her home in Ralph.

Rogers seemed to have a great impact on many people's lives at Shelton State.

Rogers taught at SSCC for almost four years, in addition to her teaching in the public school system for more than 20 years.

According to a former student-teacher of Rogers, Douglas Robinson, who is now a member of the Shelton math department, "She was truly concerned about her students; they were close to her heart."

Students were not the only people that were close to Rogers. Many of the Shelton instructors such as Julia Speights, Darrell Hagler, Tina Evans, Betsy Blount, Nancy Freeman, Byron Abston, Gary McCracken, Channing Howington, and Susan Bamberg were just a few of her close friends.

Robinson also spoke at

Rogers's funeral, describing Rogers with loving words. "Excellence would be the most appropriate word that applied to her. Well organized, sweet, and well-rounded were just a few words that came to mind."

Rogers's colleagues responded with compassionate remarks about the type of personality she had toward others: outgoing, positive, cheerful, and energetic.

Speights, a math instructor said, "There are no words to describe her. I do not think I would have made it here if it was not for her."

Services for Rogers were held at Tuscaloosa Memorial Chapel; Rogers was laid to rest at Memorial Park. Rogers is survived by husband Randy, son Blake Crossley, step-son Jake, and preceded in death by her step-daughter Holly.

Even though Rogers will be missed by faculty and students, there is a Carrie Crossley Rogers Outstanding Teacher Award at Shelton State friends can contribute to in her memory.

Shelton baseball and softball teams battle on

By Todd Eakin

A year removed from their state title, Coach Bobby Sprowl and the Bucs try to continue their dominance on the diamond this season. As of April 14, the Shelton State baseball team was 27-13, 14-7 in conference play and looking to claim a spot in the ACCC playoffs in 2008.

On the season, the team is batting .300—very good for a whole team. Tyler Horne, a first baseman from Newman, Ga., leads the team in homers with six. He also leads the team in runs batted in (RBIs) with 41. Clay Jones is second on the team with five homeruns. Left fielder Greg Guy has been killing the leather with an astounding batting average of .409.

Adam Scott, a pitcher from Hueytown, is dominating so far this year with a record of 5-0. He also has

two saves in sixteen games and an ERA (earned run average) of 3.02. He has pitched just over 44 innings, which is fourth on the team, behind leader Jonathan Smart with 56 innings pitched.

also almost through its season and is 29-11, 5-3 in conference play.

The team is batting .360 in the league with 15 home-runs and 200 RBIs. They are holding their opponents to under .250 in batting this

year and have held them to only six homers.

Left fielder, Sheena Jordan leads the team in batting with an average of .472. She has 13 RBIs and a homer to add to her summary in 2008. Kayla Gordy has six home-runs and 36 RBIs, both of which are team highs.

The Lady Bucs have

also been pitching better than ever. They have an ERA of under 2.00 as a team.

Nicole Morrison is 14-4 with a 1.74 ERA in 18 games this year. Paige Noles

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Despite a bit of a slowdown in their conference schedule, the Bucs softball squad continues to do well and keep on pace in its quest for a state title.

Smart's ERA is just over four in only eleven games.

Shelton State actually ranks second in the league in batters struck out per game and at-bats per game. They average nearly nine per game. However, they are also sixth in the league in errors per game.

The softball team is

Theatre Tuscaloosa to stage screwball comedy *Moonlight & Magnolias*

Theatre Tuscaloosa's 2007-2008 season continues with its May 2-11, 2008 production of Ron Hutchinson's *Moonlight & Magnolias*. Performances will be at the Bean-Brown Theatre located on the Shelton State Community College Martin campus. Tickets, \$10-\$14-\$17, may be purchased on line, www.theatretusc.com or by phone, 205.391.2277.

Moonlight & Magnolias is based on the true, behind-the-scenes story of adapting Margaret Mitchell's novel, *Gone with the Wind* into a screenplay.

The year is 1939 and film mogul David O. Selznick is making the mother of all movies, *Gone with the Wind*. The cast is in place and cameras are rolling. There's just one problem—the script must be rewritten in five days. Selznick summons screenwriter (script doctor) Ben Hecht and pulls director Victor Fleming off the set of *The Wizard of Oz*; the perfect guys for the job.

But, Hecht hasn't read the book. Locked in Selznick's office with Selznick playing every role,

this veteran team adapts the bestselling epic novel into a movie masterpiece.

It's a hilarious homage to the men behind an American movie classic and a Scarlett and Rhett like you've never seen before!

Moonlight & Magnolias is directed by Tina Fitch; cast members are: Adam Miller—Ben Hecht, Rory Ledbetter—David O. Selznick, Gary Wise—Victor Fleming, and Stacy Searle—Panitch—Miss Poppengul.

Gone with the Wind memorabilia will be on dis-

play in the NBC Gallery on the Shelton State Community College Martin campus during *Moonlight & Magnolias*. And, local GWTW enthusiast, David Williams, will lead a presentation on the making of *Gone with the Wind* at 6 p.m. prior to the two Saturday performances, May 3 and 10.

In conjunction with Theatre Tuscaloosa's production of *Moonlight & Magnolias*, Chuck's Fish, and the Tuscaloosa Arts Council present Dinner and a Movie, a one night show-

ing of *Gone with the Wind* at the historic Bama Theatre, 600 Greensboro Avenue, Tuscaloosa, Wednesday, April 30 at 6:30 p.m.

Performance dates and times of Theatre Tuscaloosa's *Moonlight & Magnolias* are: May 2, 3, 8, 9, and 10 at 7:30; May 4, 7, and 11 at 2:00 in the Bean-Brown Theatre. Tickets, \$10-\$14-\$17, may be purchased on-line at www.theatretusc.com or by calling 205.391.2277

Actual experience with online courses defies stereotypes

By Keith Huffman

Students detest the idea of taking online courses.

They're too difficult, right?

There's no instructor teaching in front of you, right?

Online courses are just too complicated, right?

Maybe not! Despite conventional wisdom, students who have had experience with online courses seem to view them as ideal.

Take Shelton students Judy Johnson and Brandi Acker, both of whom work in the Shelton State bookstore.

While neither took any of the same courses -- Johnson had enrolled in Math 110 during the spring semester of 2004 and in Speech 107 during spring of '06; Acker took Math 100, Sociology 200 and History

201 all in '05 -- both did reach similar agreements regarding online courses.

For starters, Johnson and Acker recommended students take online courses. According to Johnson, such classes would be "definitely good for people who work full-time," who prefer to "go at their own pace" in completing their assignments.

"Anybody who doesn't want to sit in a classroom, they should totally take online courses," Johnson said.

In a similar note regarding those who are self-paced, Acker recommended online courses to "people who have children" as well as those employed at "jobs during the day."

In describing their experiences with the format of online courses, Johnson and Acker said they were given homework and quizzes, all

of which they were able to complete at their own pace, given that they had to finish their assignments by a set date designated on their class syllabus.

According to Johnson, her online classes met one time in the beginning of the semester so the instructor could pass out syllabuses and explain how the courses would be conducted.

Both Johnson and Acker said their quizzes were not timed, provided that they had to submit their answers online by a certain date. Only tests, they said, were given in a classroom.

"They [instructors] give you a certain time to get things done, but it's plenty of time," Acker said while referring to completing assignments and quizzes. "The only thing you have to do classroom-wise is come in and take the test."

While acknowledging that she was "not a math person" and admitted for math classes she preferred "a classroom environment--more student-teacher interaction," Acker said she enjoyed taking her history and sociology classes online.

"With my experience, I did very well in history and sociology," Acker said. "I don't think it could necessarily be any better for those two classes." Recalling some advantages grade-wise in her online courses, Acker said, "In the math course I took, the quizzes gave you a certain amount of times to get a question correct. In the history class, you could retake quizzes as many times as you wanted to get however many points you wanted before the test."

Johnson also didn't have any suggestions for improv-

ing online courses, recalling when she did encounter a misunderstanding in the courses she took, her instructors were "always pretty prompt in answering emails."

Having already earned four diplomas from Shelton, Johnson said, "If online courses had been available the first time I went through college [in '83], I definitely would have taken them then."

Echoing Johnson and Acker's recommendation of online courses, Shelton students Tameka Smith and Kelli Kirk, both office and administration majors, also said they took a particular liking to online courses.

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QEP Game #2

Word Scramble

For the second game of the QEP Series, we present you with a group of words associated with online learning.

This QEP game is open to all supporters of Shelton State and readers of the *Shelton State Courier*.

Make your selection, clip the coupon from the paper and give it to a *Courier* staff member, bring it by the *Courier* office in Rm. 2319, send it by campus mail, or via snail-mail to Shelton State Courier/ QEP Game/ 9500 Old Greensboro Rd./ Tuscaloosa, AL 35405. One person chosen from among the correct answers will win a prize and have his or her picture printed in the following edition of the *Courier*.

Below are six scrambled words all associated with the QEP and online classes. Sort out the letters and join the boxed letters together to form the "secret word" also associated with contemporary higher education.

LAQUYIT
RABBCLKDO
LANP
HENETCANEMN
NONELIN
FELS-DACEP

And the secret word is

SSCC QEP Game #2

The secret word is:

--	--	--	--	--	--

Name: _____

Way to contact you: _____

Shel-Shots



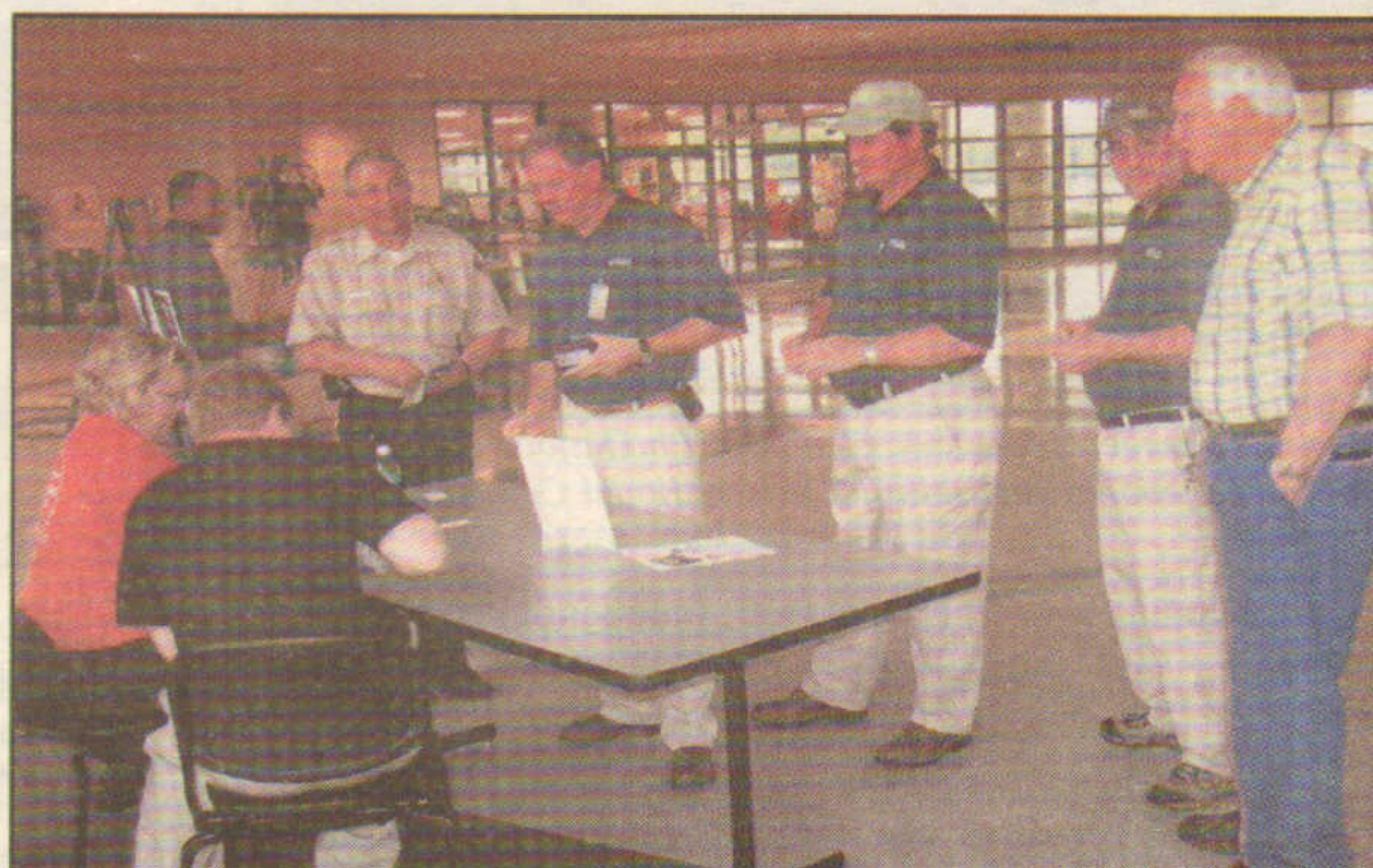
Shelton Ladies' basketball head coach Madonna Thompson visits with Lance Taylor and Ian Fitzsimmons from Jox Radio 100.5 during a recent live broadcast from the atrium.



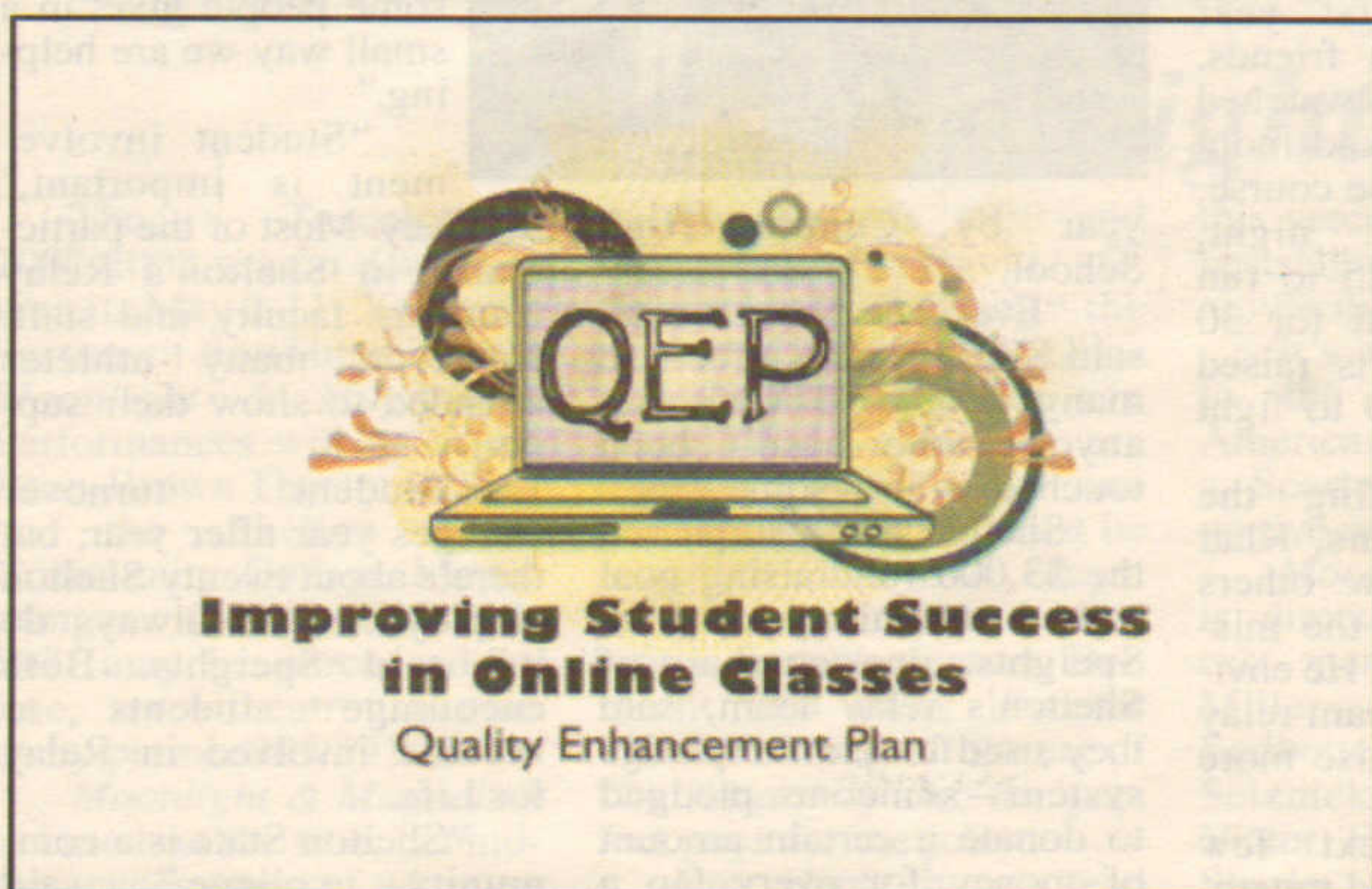
Dean Tommy Taylor (L) and Athletic Director Barry Mohun (R) congratulate Shelton baseball coach Bobby Sprowl on his 600th win during a reception in his honor in the Student Activity Center.



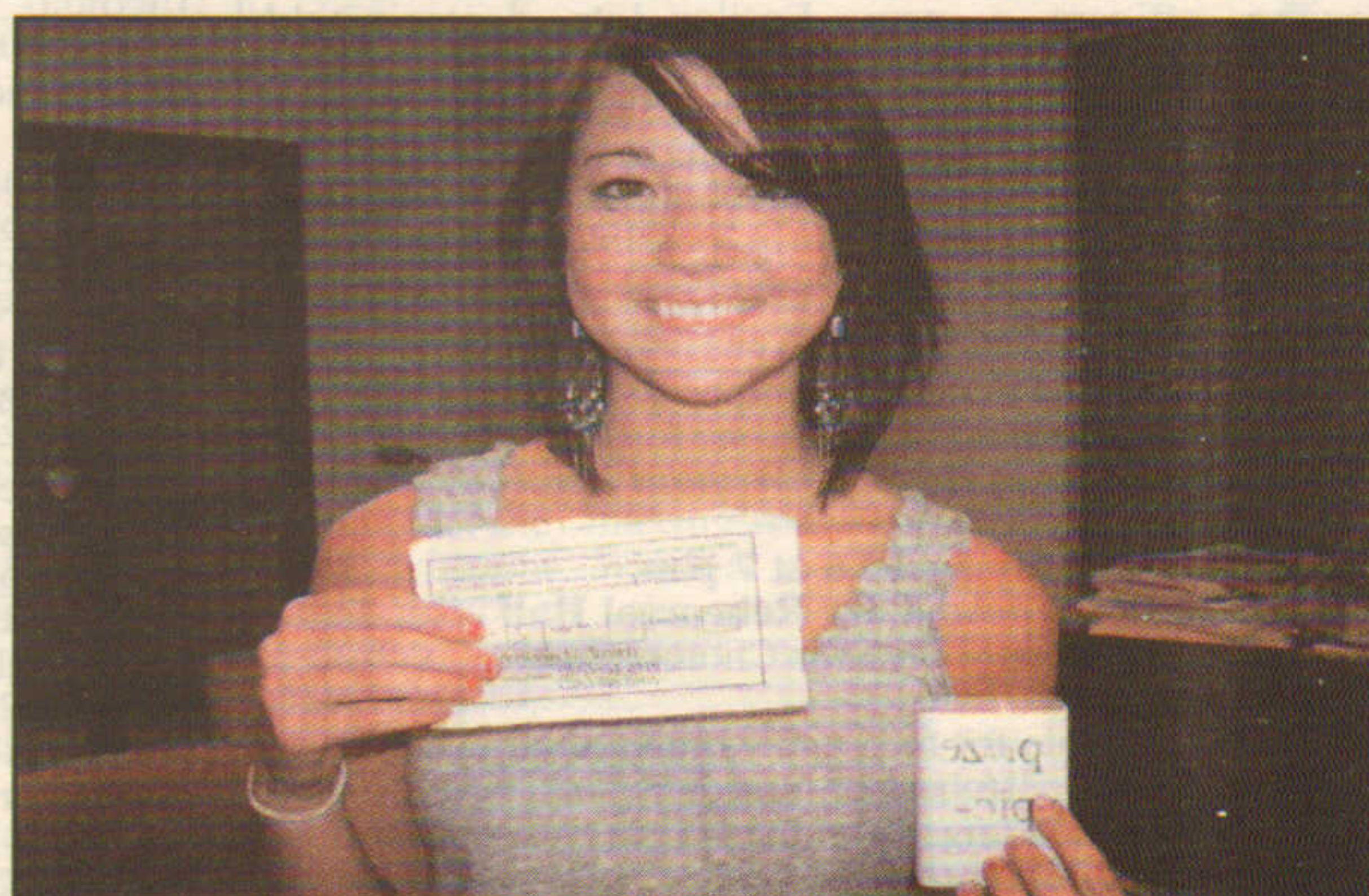
Charles Prosser as Macky and Drew Baker as Norma perform in Fannie Flagg's "Cant Wait to Get to Heaven" during Page to Stage.



Shelton faculty and staff members queue up to pay for their vittles as the Relay for Life rally begins.



This logo is the winner from the Courier's first QEP game, as selected by some 300 Shelton State students. Hope you like it...



Smile, Autumn Smith. You're the winner of an iPod Shuffle by virtue of your vote for QEP logo number 1 (see left). Smith is a computer science student from Tuscaloosa.

News From Phi Theta Kappa



PTK visits the City of Brotherly Love

Phi Theta Kappa held its annual International Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on April 3-5, 2008. Shelton State's Alpha Epsilon Iota chapter flew out April 2 in order to attend and returned April 6.

Philly was beautiful but a little chilly. Travelers to the convention were advisors Claire Brock and Julia Speights, 2007-2008 officers Patricia Latham, Katie

Secretary of State, James Rubin, along with our first Cuban-American Congresswoman, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, and political columnist, George Will. Phi Theta Kappa's Executive Director, Rod A. Risley, and International President, Casey Maliszewski, also spoke at the convention.

While in Philly, Alpha Epsilon Iota's crew took in sights such as the Liberty



Shelton president, Mark A. Heinrich, Ph.D., joined PTK in Philadelphia for their annual International Convention.

Cowart, Hanna Howell, Laci Crimm, and Missie DeLoach, and 2008-2009 Regional and Chapter President, Justin Grimes.

A surprise visitor was Shelton State Community College President, Dr. Mark Heinrich!

The sessions were informative and inspiring, showing officers a new aspect of Phi Theta Kappa workings and goals. Speakers included CNN Chief International Correspondent, Christiane Amanpour, and her husband, former Assistant

Bell, Independence Hall, the Love Statue, as well as a scenic tour of Rocky Balboa's run through downtown Philly that ended by running up the infamous steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Overall the trip was fabulous and the Philly cheese steaks were great! Alpha Epsilon Iota chapter would like to thank Phi Theta Kappa, Shelton State faculty and students, and especially Dr. Heinrich for making this trip possible and unforgettable!

Theatre Tuscaloosa

is holding auditions for

How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying

May 5 and 6 at 7 p.m.

in the Wilson-Carr Rehearsal Hall
Stacy Allen - Director/Choreographer

Roles available for men and women of all ages.

16 bars of music;

Readings from the script;

Be prepared to dance!

Scripts available at Theatre Tuscaloosa
For more info call 391-2277

Relay

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appears to lend an equal measure of fun and productivity to the event.

According to the organization's official website (relayforlife.org), Relay sprinted into existence in the mid 1980s in Tacoma, Wash. when Dr. Gordy Klatt decided to personally augment the income of his local American Cancer Society office and show support of his patients who had battled cancer. Klatt decided to raise the income by doing something he enjoyed--run-

Destiny Classic 24-Hour Run Against Cancer.

In 1986, with the help of Pat Flynn--now known as the "Mother of Relay"--19 teams took part in the first team Relay event on the track at the historic Stadium Bowl, where they raised \$33,000. According to the Relay for Life website, "an indescribable spirit prevailed at the track and the tents that dotted the infield."

Since the first Relay for Life event, millions have joined the cause all over the world, making Relay the largest fundraising event in mankind's history.

Shelton State's own Relay for Life team participated in the annual event for Tuscaloosa County on Friday.



ning marathons.

In May of 1985, Klatt spent 24 unrelenting hours circling the track at the University of Puget Sound's Baker Stadium in Tacoma. That first year nearly 300 of his friends, family, and patients watched as he ran and walked more than 83 miles on the course. Throughout the night, friends donated \$25 to run or walk with Klatt for 30 minutes. His efforts raised more than \$25,000 to fight cancer.

While circuiting the track those 24 hours, Klatt thought about how others could take part in the mission to fight cancer. He envisioned a 24-hour team relay event that could raise more money for cancer.

Over the next few months, Klatt pulled together a small committee to plan the first team relay event, known as the City of

took place. Now Shelton hosts other fundraising activities such as bake sales and barbecue sales to meet their goal.

Shelton State has extended this Good Samaritan attitude to Relay for Life for about ten years, and Tuscaloosa has been involved for about fifteen years.

Friday night, participants wearing purple T-shirts were dotted throughout Central's gymnasium, signifying their status as a cancer survivor. These survivors start the relay with a "survivor's lap," celebrating their triumph over this disease. "If it doesn't pull at your heartstrings, then you don't have one," said a man from the

Cell phone photos provided by Martha Key from the Relay for Life event at Central High School demonstrate the almost-religious fervor of the movement's participants.

YouTube video on the Relay for Life website, commenting on the survivor's lap.

There was also a ceremony later in the evening honoring those who have or are bat-

tling cancer. The track at Central was lined with bags, each bearing a name. Each name on every bag was recognized during this solemn ceremony. "It really brings it home to you when you hear the names," said Key.

"Cancer doesn't care who it attacks," said Key. "When you see people improve year after year, you realize what your money is making a difference for. Even though our donation is just a drop in a bucket compared to what some people give, in a small way we are helping."

"Student involvement is important," said Key. Most of the participants in Shelton's Relay team are faculty and staff. However, many athletes attended to show their support.

"Student turnover changes year after year, but there's about twenty Shelton employees who always do it," said Speights. Both encourage students to become involved in Relay for Life.

"Shelton State is a community college," said Speights, "so we help the community."

year by Central High School.

"Everyone has a story," said Key. "Cancer affects so many people. There's not anyone who hasn't been touched by it in some way."

Shelton State surpassed the \$3,000 fundraising goal it had set this year. John Speights, one co-chair of Shelton's relay team, said they used to use the pledge system--someone pledged to donate a certain amount of money for every lap a person completed--but it was difficult to collect the donations after the event



Page to Stage from Page 1

uine, heartfelt warmth; the wonderful, unparalleled sense of history and culture enjoyed by its citizens; and the warm weather and unforgettable fragrance of fresh Alabama air were all reasons I settled on Tuscaloosa when choosing a locale to further my education.

But after living here over three years, I find my confusion as strong as ever.

Surely I could find solace in literature, the one medium that rarely fails to shed light on complicated, if not confusing topics. So when I heard that Theater Tuscaloosa was putting on a revue featuring staged interpretations of works from some of the most beloved and respected Southern writers, I jumped on the assignment.

Page to Stage: A Theatrical Celebration of Southern Authors was held on Friday, April 12, in the Bean-Brown Theatre. And before I review the performance itself, perhaps I should describe my confusion.

To put it bluntly, I don't understand the South's infatuation with racism and ignorance. Maybe it's because I'm a Yank, or maybe because I try not to be racist, nor ignorant.

Now let me clearly state, for the record, that I am not accusing the good people of Alabama of possessing either of these characteristics *en masse*. I understand that racist ideology was not invented in the South, and, believe me, I've dealt with plenty of ignorance in the North.

But the sheer bulk of

material produced on the subjects is nothing short of amazing to me. Nearly every single work that was interpreted at *Page to Stage* dealt with one or both.

The performance explored the works of four acclaimed Southern authors: Fannie Flagg, William Bradford Huie, Nanci Kincaid and Jeanie

South who falls in love with a black boy despite the warnings of her family and friends.

It's an age-old tale of forbidden love; think *Romeo and Juliet* meets *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Deftly acted by Elise Zeaman and Jerrell Bowden, the characters of Lucy and Skippy embody the struggle for equal rights that so characterized the South as a whole in the 1960's.

For someone like myself, the sight of Lucy and Skippy locking lips in a heartfelt embrace was far from shocking, as one could imagine it must have been for their contemporaries.

And this concept is exactly what I believe the novel's author, Nanci Kincaid was attempting to convey: Love is color-blind and unyielding.

So Lucy's white and Skippy black, big deal. They see eye-to-eye on nearly everything, share similar hopes and dreams. Both long to be rid of such a place where hatred and ignorance dictate who one can or can't love.

I could feel the characters' innocence and lack of understanding: Why can't we be seen together in public? What's the big deal?

And I'm sure most Southerners feel the same way, even back then. But how is it that the attitudes of a vast minority of people are allowed to set the tone for an entire region? How were so many rational, caring,

intelligent people silenced for so long in favor of the irrational, uncaring and ignorant?

I suppose questions like these are what drives their continuous exploration on both stage and page.

Other themes besides

racism were touched upon as well.

• In Fannie Flagg's "Can't Wait to Get to Heaven," Aunt Elner (played by Dianne Teague who oozed Southern charm) passes away and makes it to heaven, or so she thinks. Either way, it's not what she expected, and Aunt Elner gets a few of her earthly questions answered.

• Scenes from "This Day," a collection of poems about the adult life of Helen Keller by Jeanie Thompson, were enacted on stage. Lisa Waldrop took on the challenging role of Helen and, though brief, her performance was admirable, nonetheless. Accompanying Waldrop was a troupe of interpretive dancers, who illustrated some of Thompson's poems with their entertaining cavorting.

• Theatre Tuscaloosa veteran Glen Johnson gave what I believe to be the superlative effectuation of the evening as a U.A. professor in a monologue from Huie's "Mud on the Stars." During his soliloquy, Johnson transferred the audience to a WWII-era lecture hall as he described the sometimes all-too-similar relationship between the University and nearby Bryce Hospital.

Though the various works that were performed that evening were all slightly different in their themes, the one common factor throughout the production was the sheer professionalism of Theatre Tuscaloosa.

From the acting to the choreography, lighting to stage design (simple, but appropriate), *Page to Stage* was, by all accounts, another successful endeavor by the T.T. crew.

And though I left the theatre that evening still confused as ever about the preoccupation with racism and flirtation with ignorance in the South, I did learn something about the way Southerners deal with it.

William Faulkner so famously ended his greatest work *Absalom, Absalom!*, with Quentin Compson's plaintive cry, "I don't hate the South. I don't hate it. I don't. I don't."

I'm afraid the best I can do now is "I don't understand the South... I don't. I don't."

QEP from Page 4

While saying online courses would be ideal for those who wish to complete class work on their own time, Smith and Kirk also seemed to agree that students who enroll in online courses have to stay on top of their assigned work.

"If you get behind in your work, you're in serious trouble," Kirk said.

Having already taken two OAD courses online and currently enrolled in an Access online course, Smith said gas prices and her work schedule influenced her decision to take online classes. Kirk, who has taken OAD 125, a health as well as a sociology course online, said she decided to try online courses simply on her own "freewill."

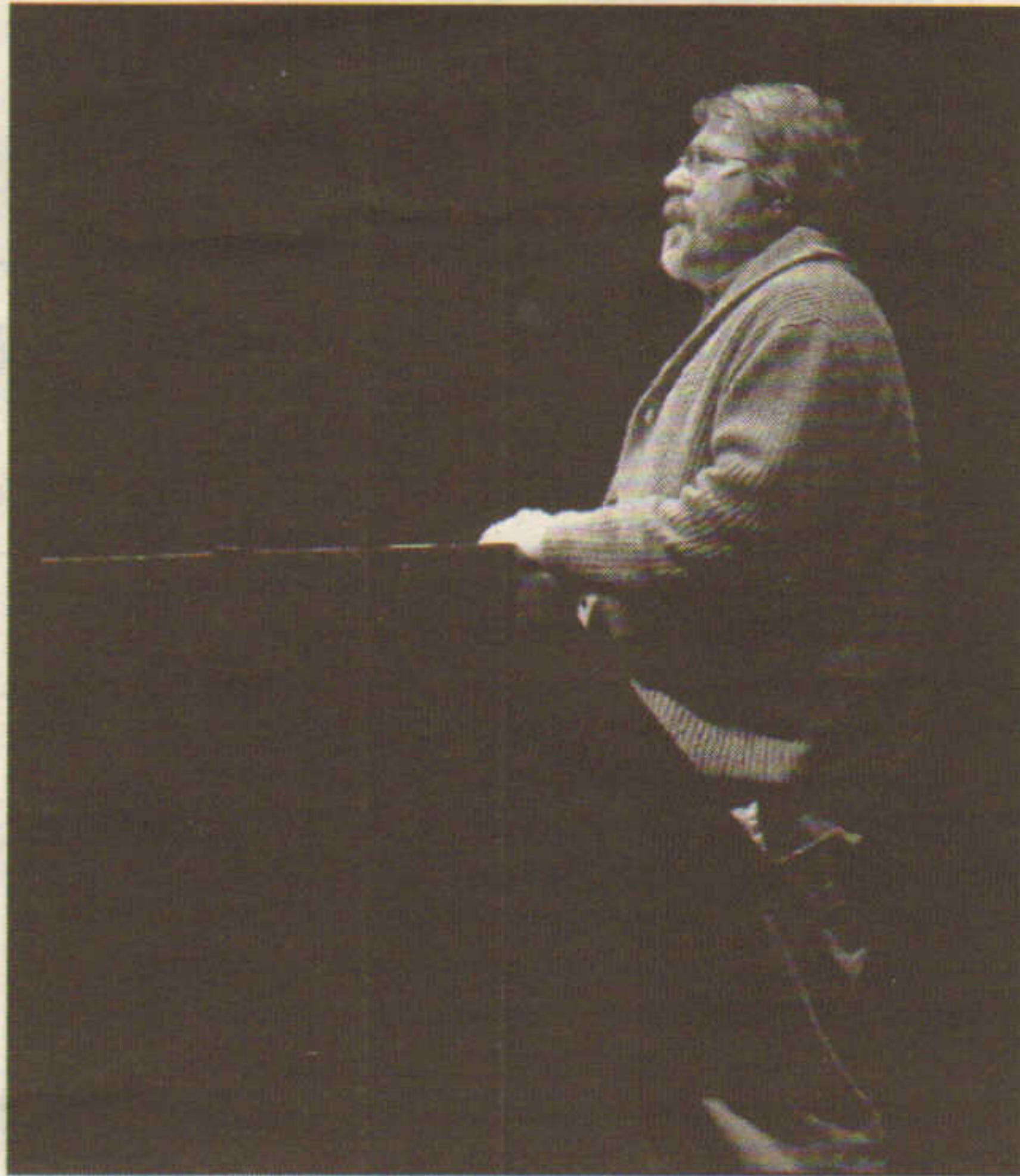
Like Johnson and Acker, Smith and Kirk agreed they'd take online courses again, although they also suggested ways to improve online courses.

Smith said online courses could be improved through the Blackboard program, particularly through saving students' time by "being able to [submit] more than one assignment at a time."

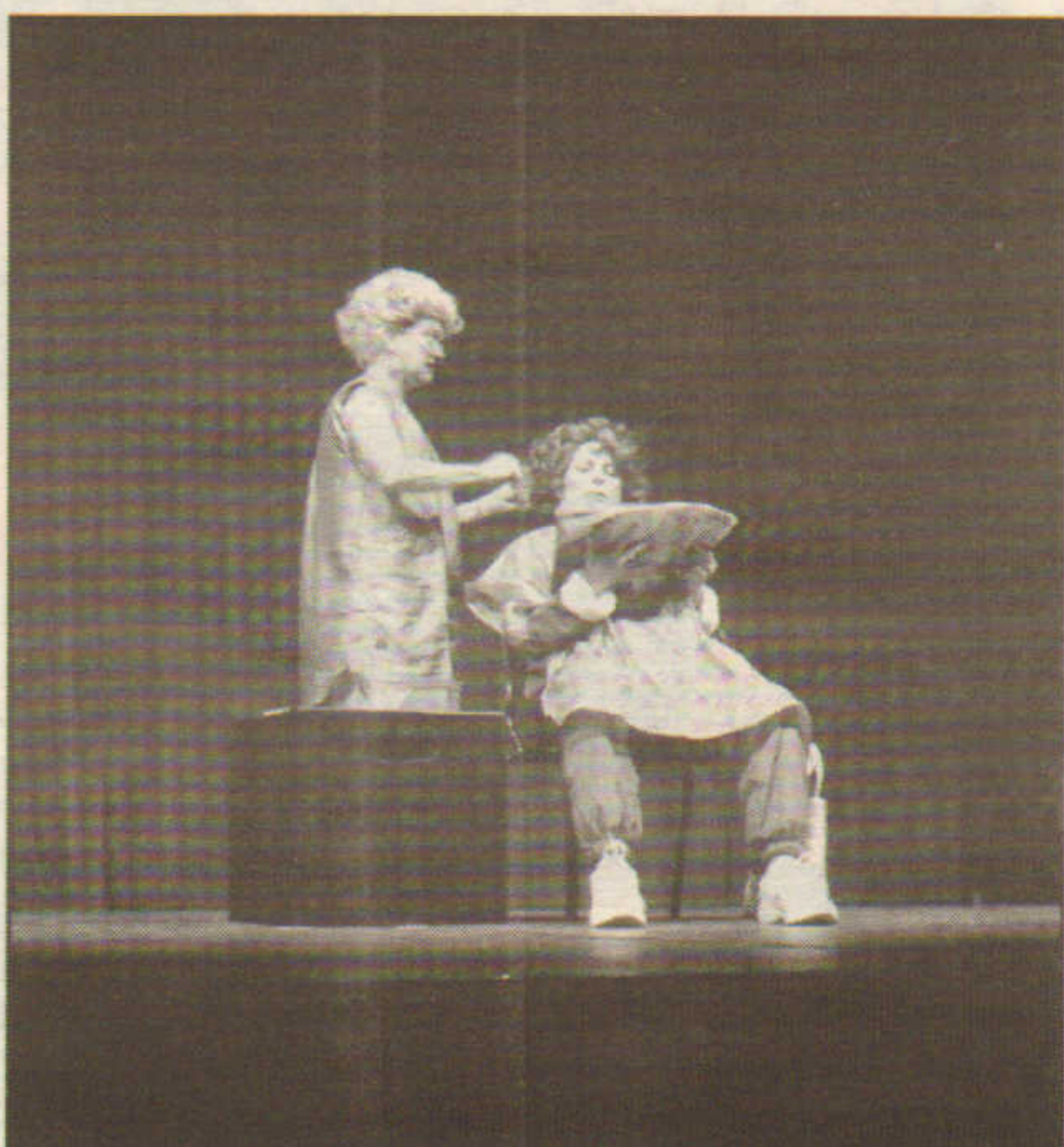
Kirk also spoke about bettering Blackboard, saying, "I think there should be more info on how to find more answers to a question besides finding the answers in different chapters—to understand something better than what a textbook says, maybe like a google search."

Regarding instructors of online courses, Kirk also said another thing she came to dislike about online courses was when an instructor failed to respond to her inquiries on Blackboard. "Some teachers shouldn't teach online," she said.

Overall, though, Kirk said taking online courses was very advantageous in terms of conserving gas and working to one's comfort preference. "It helps because you don't have to come to Shelton and sit [in a classroom]," Kirk said. "Basically you save gas and you don't have to carry all those textbooks around."



Glen Johnson delivers a monologue in "Case No. 4864" from William Bradford Huie's "Mud on the Stars," during Page to Stage.



Drew Baker as Norma and Kathy Wilson as Tot Whooten perform in another scene from Flagg's "Can't Wait to Get to Heaven."

Thompson. I'm sure none of whom are strangers to this scourge that seems to plague the South's otherwise wonderful history.

One of the works that stuck with me the most was "Crossing Blood," a story of a young, white girl in the

Baseball from Page 3

has seven saves this year in 16 games. Both are part of a team that ranks seventh in the conference in earned run average.

Both the baseball and softball teams have eight games remaining as of April 14 and both are looking to battle their way to the top of the ACCC standings before the playoffs begin in May.



Recent baseball action featured some exciting and sentimental moments. (Clockwise from top) Bucs infielder Russ Tibbs attempts to turn a double play; Coach Sprowl's daughter, Graceson, and the athletic department staff congratulate him on the field for his 600th victory; Michael Burchfield slides into second base in an attempt to break up a double play; Michael Tinsley beats a throw to the bag and pitcher Dennis Blevins shows fine form while delivering a pitch to the plate.

Photos by Donna Tinsley



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